

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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TAGS: PINS, PO

SUBJ: MORE ON PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY (E.L.P.)

REF: LISBON 1643

SUMMARY: AFM LEADER SAID GOP HAD UNCOVERED EXISTENCE OF "PORTUGUESE LIBERATION ARMY" (ELP) IN PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 23. ELP SAID TO OPERATE UNDER COMMERCIAL COVER FROM SPAIN, AND HAVE AT LEAST 2 FOREIGNERS AMONG ITS LEADERS. IT OPERATES ON BASIS CELLS, SEEKS TO REMOVE LEFTISTS FROM POWER AND AND MAINTAIN OVERSEAS POSSESSIONS. ELP TACTICS BOTH PSYCHOLOGICAL AND VIOLENT, INCLUDING KIDNAPPING OF AMBASSADORS FOR RANSOM AND BANK ROBBERY. LIST OF 12 ELP MEMBERS PUBLISHED. SPOKESMAN SAID NO PROOF EXISTS OF SPANISH INVOLVEMENT WITH ELP. LEFT OPEN POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT WITH CIA. ALTHOUGH WEAKENED, ELP SAID TO CONTINUE TO EXIST. PEOPLE ASKED TO HELP EXTIRPATE ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.

1. IN ADDITION TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTTEL REGARDING ELP, MAJ. CORVACHO GAVE FOLLOWING DETAILS REGARDING ELP LANS AND ORGANIZATION DURING HIS MARCH 23 OPORTO PRESS CONFERENCE.

2. BACKGROUND AND LEADERS:

ELP ALLEGEDLY WAS CREATED ON JANUARY 7, 1975. TWO OF ITS FOUNDERS ARE FOREIGNERS. ONE IS FNU MORGAN ALIAS "AFONSO" WHO IS ELP PROGRAM DIRECTOR. MORGAN IS SAID TO HAVE VISITED PORTUGAL A FEW TIMES. THE OTHER FOREIGNER IS A FNU CASTOR WHO TRAVELS ON GUATEMALAN PASSPORT UNDER NAME OF ENGINEER HUGH C. FRANKLIN, AND USES ALIAS "JOAQUIM." JOAQUIM IS SAID TO BE FUND RAISER FOR ELP. HE SUPPOSEDLY LEFT PORTUGAL MARCH 10. BOTH MORGAN AND JOAQUIM ALLEGEDLY HAVE HELPED SET UP RIGHTWING REGIMES IN LATIN AMERICA. THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE VISITED OR LIVED IN CHILE, GUATEMALA, AND BOLIVIA. ELP SUPPOSEDLY OPERATES OUT OF MADGIB UNDER COMMERCIAL COVER: SOCIEDADE MARIANO SA (APARTADO 1134, MADRID) AND TECNOMOTOR, SA (DR FLEMING 51 MADRID, 16).

3. ORGANIZATION:

ELP SAID TO BE A SECRET ORGANIZATION, ORGANIZED ALONG MILITARY LINES, AND ON BASIS OF CELLS. MAXIMUM SIZE OF A CELL IS 7 (COMPOSED OF A CHIEF, WHO ALSO POLICY COORDINATOR, AND DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION, SECURITY, PSYCHOLOGICAL ACTION, AND LOGISTICS). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CELL MEMBERS COMMUNICATE IN CODE. ELP LEADERS SAID TO MEET IN LAS TORRES RESTAURANT IN SALAMANCA, SPAIN, AND IN A HOTEL IN VERIM.

4. GOALS:

ELP GOALS SAID TO BE EXPULSION OF MARXISTS AND PROGRESSIVES FROM POWER AND RETENTION OF PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

5. TACTICS:

ELP SAID TO EMPLOY TWO TYPES OF TACTICS: PSYCHOLOGICAL AND TERRORIST: IN PSYCHOLOGICAL FIELD, ELP SEEKS TO CREATE CLIMATE OF DISORDER IN HOPES OF PROVOKING RIGHTWING COUP. "SPECIALLY TRAINED TEAMS" WERE TO PROVOKE CIVIL-MILITARY CONFLICTS. ELP SUPPOSEDLY HAS COLLECTED FUNDS TO PURCHASE TWO MOBILE TRANSMITTERS, ONE TO BROADCAST TO NORTHERN PORTUGAL, FROM SPAIN, THE OTHER TO SOUTH. IN TERRORIST FIELD, ELP (USING HIRED MERCENARIES) PLAN TO KIDNAP AMBASSADORS FOR RANSOM AND ROB BANKS. PLANS WERE UNDERWAY TO ROB AN OPORTO BANK (OPERATION TO BE UNDER CODE NAME ROCHA). ELP SAID TO POSSESS AND HAVE HIDDEN ABROAD SCORPION MACHINE PISTOLS WITH SILENCERS. IT ALSO SUPPOSE TO HAVE ACQUIRED BOMBS WHICH ACTIVATE FROM HEAT OF AUTO TAIL PIPES. ELP MEMBERS WORKING IN STRATEGIC SECTORS OF ECONOMY AND IN ESSENTIAL SERVICES WERE TO SABOTAGE WATER, ELECTRICITY, TRANSPORT. ELP ALLIED WITH GROUP CALLED FRENTE DE TRABALHADORES ANTICOMUNISTAS.

6 ELP AND MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT:

MAJ. CORVACHO CLAIMED THAT ELP MEMBERS SLIGHTLY INVOLVED IN MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT. COUP PLANNERS ALLEGEDLY CONTACTED ELP NORTHERN COMMAND IN EARLY FEB SEEKING THEIR SUPPORT. ELP REPORTEDLY TOLD COUP PLANNERS TO GO TO MADRID TO SPEAK TO COMMAND THERE. MEETING TOOK PLACE IN MARCH FEB 17. COUP PLOTTERS SUPPOSEDLY LAID OUT PLANS TO ATTACK RAL 1, AND SAID COUP WOULD BE BETWEEN FEB 21 AND 27TH. ELP REFUSED TO SUPPORT COUP BUT TOLD ITS MEMBERS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT FOR THEIR OWN ENDS. NEVERTHELESS, CORVACHO STATED THAT SOME ELP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH MARCH 11 EVENTS. THESE PERSONS LINKED TO BANNED FAR RIGHT PARTIDO DE PROGRESSO AND LIBERAL PARTY. OTHERS ALSO WERE ARRESTED, INCLUDING MILIARY, FOR THEIR ELP CONNECTIONS, BUT NAMES ARE BEING KEPT SECRET FOR THE MOMENT.

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7. ELP MEMBERS ARRESTED:

FONSECA, ARTUR FREDERICO ANCEDE BARBOSA DA
NEGRAO, LUIS MARCOS SOTTO MAIOR
CORREIA, ANTONIO DOS SANTOS FIGUEIRINHAS
CARVALHO, JOSE VIEIRA DE
MOREIRA, RUI HOFFE DE ARAUJO
BORGES, FRANCISO JOSE BRAGA FERNANDES
SANTOS, ARTUR ARMANDO CAMARATE DOS
SILVA, JOAQUIM FERREIRA DA
PINTO, JOSE
MALVEIRO, ABEL
MONFALIM JUNIOR, BERNARDO
LEME, ANTONIO MARIA DE NORONHA E TAVORA DE AZEVEDO DO
DESPITE ARRESTS, E.L.P. SAID STILL TO EXIST. PEOPLE TOLD TO

HELP ROOT OUT E.L.P. TO MAINTAIN VIGILANCE, AND TO HELP IDENTIFY
MORGAN AND CASTOR.

8. CORVACHO, WHEN ASKED WHETHER E.L.P. LINKED TO C.I.A.
OR SPANISH GOVERNMENT, STATED THAT NO PROOF OF SUCH TIES HAS COME
TO ITS ATTENTION. RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER ELP HAD
FOREIGN CONNECTIONS, CORVACHO SAID "PROGRESSIVE PRESS" COULD DRAW
OWN CONCLUSIONS FROM NATIONALITY OF FOREIGNERS IN SALAMANCA
PHOTO.
CARLUCCI

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